

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 28, 2003

Michael Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

In the matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors,

FCC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45.

Dear Chairman Powell:

We are writing to nominate with our highest recommendation Dr. Douglas D. Christensen, Commissioner of Education for the State of Nebraska, for a position on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. We believe that Dr. Christensen's expertise, experience, and passion for education and educational technology make him an ideal candidate for the Board.

Dr. Christensen has a keen understanding of our nation's education system at all levels. He has served as a classroom teacher, principal, superintendent, university instructor, and state education policy official for 37 years. Throughout his administrative and policy leadership career, he has had an interest in educational technology, and he has worked diligently within our state to ensure that new technology is incorporated into Nebraska's classrooms in a manner that effectively improves student achievement.

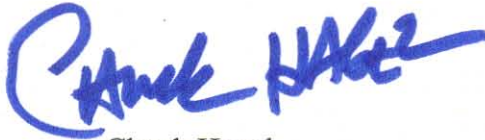
Nebraska has many small rural schools that rely heavily on technology to provide a broader range of educational opportunities to isolated schools. Having worked with communities throughout the state to overcome technological hurdles, Dr. Christensen is intimately aware of the problems particular to rural areas. His expertise in rural technological needs would be an asset to the Board. Dr. Christensen also has extensive experience working with Native American communities. His previous work with those communities would be invaluable to the Board as it works to increase connectivity among BIA schools.

Commissioner Christensen has transformed Nebraska into a national model for technologically equipped modern classrooms. More importantly, he has worked with teachers, principals, and other stakeholders to ensure the new technology is relevant to the state's academic objectives and utilized effectively to improve student achievement.

In addition to his experience as an educator, administrator and state policy official, and his expertise in technology, it is perhaps Dr. Christensen's passion for education that makes him such an outstanding candidate for a position on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. As members of the Nebraska Congressional Delegation, we have had numerous opportunities to work with Dr. Christensen. He has been an invaluable ally for all of us as we work to represent the best interests of Nebraska schools.

Please contact any of our Congressional Offices for additional information regarding Dr. Christensen's nomination. Again, we sincerely hope that Dr. Christensen will be named to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Chuck Hagel
United States Senator



Ben Nelson
United States Senator



Tom Osborne
Member of Congress



Lee Terry
Member of Congress



Doug Bereuter
Member of Congress